

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PM-05  
NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 /065 W  
-----093383 121934Z /64  
P 121900Z SEP 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR  
TO AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9589  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN SALVADOR 4805

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: OVIP (ASTACIO, JULIO ERNESTO), PINR, ES  
SUBJ: BRIEFING MATERIAL FOR THE VISIT TO SPAIN OF THE VICE-  
PRESIDENT OF EL SALVADOR

REF (A) MADRID 10446 (NOTAL), (B) SAN SALVADOR 4708

1. VICE-PRESIDENT JULIO ERNESTO ASTACIO WAS BORN MARCH 12, 1932 IN SAN SALVADOR. HE RECEIVED A MEDICAL DEGREE FROM UNIVERSITY OF EL SALVADOR (UES) IN 1960. UNDER AID GRANT, HE WORKED AT HOSPITAL AFFILIATED WITH UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA. UNDER SCHOLARSHIPS FROM U.S. AND SALVADORAN ARMED, HE STUDIED AT WALTER REED GENERAL HOSPITAL. BEFORE ENTERING CABINET AS MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE IN JULY 1972, ASTACIO HAD BUILT A SUCCESSFUL PRIVATE MEDICAL PRACTICE. ASTACIO RECEIVED THE VICE-PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION OF THE RULING NATIONAL CONCILIATION PARTY (PCN) IN SEPT 1976. AS VICE-PRESIDENT, ASTACIO HAS ALSO HELD THE POSITION OF MINISTER TO THE PRESIDENT WHICH HAS GIVEN HIM SOME RESPONSIBILITY WITHIN THE GOES FOR RUNNING THE DAY-TO-DAY AFFAIRS OF GOVERNMENT. HE HAS TAKEN A PARTICULAR INTEREST IN EL SALVADOR'S BIRTH CONTROL AND HEALTH PROGRAMS. ASTACIO SPEAKS ENGLISH WELL. HE IS MARRIED AND THE FATHER OF THREE  
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CHILDREN.

2. DR. JOSE ANTONIO RODRIGUEZ PORTH WAS SWORN IN AS THE NEW FOREIGN MINISTER ON APRIL 28, 1978. BORN ON APRIL 7, 1916 IN SAN SALVADOR, RODRIGUEZ PORT RECEIVED A LAW DEGREE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF EL SALVADOR (UES) IN NOVEMBER 1941. AMONG THE POSITIONS HE HELD AFTER HIS

GRADUATION WERE THOSE OF SUBSECRETARIES OF THE MINISTRIES OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND JUSTICE (1944 AND 1948). HE SERVED AS A DEPUTY IN THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FROM 1947-1948. IN THE EARLY 1950'S, HE TAUGHT PHILOSOPHY AT THE UES AND WAS ASSOCIATED WITH TWO NOW DEFUNCT NEWSPAPERS. RODRIGUEZ PORTH WAS DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF LAW AT THE UES FROM 1955-1959. CONCURRENTLY, HE WAS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE FROM 1956-1957. IN 1972, RODRIGUEZ RAN AS THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE OF THE SALVADORAN POPULAR PARTY (PPS). HE FINISHED LAST IN A FIELD OF FOUR. SINCE THAT TIME, HE HAS DEVOTED HIMSELF MAINLY TO HIS LEGAL PRACTICE, WHICH HAVE INCLUDED SOME OF EL SALVADOR'S WEALTHIEST INDIVIDUALS AND MOST POWERFUL FIRMS. HE HAS BEEN LEGAL ADVISOR TO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE (ANEP) SINCE 1976. FROM 1950 TO 1972 HE WAS LEGAL ADVISOR TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY OF EL SALVADOR. RODRIGUEZ IS MARRIED AND HAS TWO CHILDREN. HE IS A SPORTS ENTHUSIAST AND IS ALSO A MEMBER OF SEVERAL CIVIC INSTITUTIONS (INCLUDING THE SALVADORAN RED CROSS). HE IS THE AUTHOR OF A TEXTBOOK ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL LAW OF EL SALVADOR AND HAS WRITTEN NUMEROUS NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ON POLITICAL AND SOCIAL THEMES. HE WAS REPORTEDLY THE INDIVIDUAL WHO PLACED AND PAID FOR ADS CONTAINING A LETTER TO THEN-ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN. THE ADS APPEARED IN THE NOVEMBER 15, 1977 EDITIONS OF "EL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DIARIO DE HOY" AND "LA PRENSA GRAFICA". THE LETTER STATED THAT GOES AUTHORITIES FEARED TO TAKE NECESSARY MEASURES AGAINST TERRORISM BECAUSE OF THE POSSIBILITY THAT EL SALVADOR MIGHT BE SUBJECTED TO SANCTIONS IMPOSED BY THE U.S. AGAINST NATIONS VIOLATING HUMAN RIGHTS.

3. JOSE EDUARDO REYES WAS BORN ON MARCH 17, 1931 IM JIQUILISCO, DEPARTMENT OF USULUTAN. HE GRADUATED IN 1955 WITH A DEGREE IN ECONOMICS FROM THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY AND RECEIVED HIS DOCTORATE FROM THE SAME UNIVERSITY IN 1961. BESIDES STUDYING IN PARIS (1965) AND LONDON (1966), REYES SPENT A YEAR DOING -POST-GRADUATE WORK ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT QL VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY IN NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE. IN ADDITION TO FRENCH, HE SPEAKS RELATIVELY GOOD ENGLISH AND THREE OF HIS CHILDREN HAVE REPORTEDLY ATTENDED THE AMERICAN SCHOOL IN SAN SALVADOR. HE WAS WITH CONOPLAN (MINISTRY OF PLANNING'S PREDECESSOR ORGANIZATION) FROM 1962-1969. HE APPARENTLY HELD THE NUMBER TWO SPOT FOR THE BETTER PART OF THAT TIME BUT FINISHED AS DIRECTOR. SINCE THEN HE HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH FERPO (FEDERATION OF PROSESSIONAL ACADEMIC ASSOCIATIONS) AND ANEP (NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE),

AND HAS DONE ECONOMIC CONSULTING. HE HAS ALSO BEEN ON THE FACULTIES OF ECONOMICS OF BOTH THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY AND JOSE SIMEON CANAS UNIVERSITY (UCA - THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY).

4. EMBASSY IS NOT AWARE OF ANY PARTICULAR ISSUES THE VICE-PRESIDENT AND TWO MINISTERS MIGHT RAISE WITH AMBASSADOR TODMAN. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED INFO THAT ASTACIO EXPECTS TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT PROVIDING FOR SPANISH ASSISTANCE IN LABOR TECHNICAL FIELD. ASTACIO WILL ALSO BE ACCOMPANIED BY 10-12 MEMBERS OF EL SALVADOR'S PRIVATE BUSINESS SECTOR.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** VICE PRESIDENT, MINISTERIAL VISITS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** OVIP, PINR, ES, SP, (ASTACIO, JULIO ERNESTO)  
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**Review Markings:**  
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